12 September 2007

Original: English

Committee on Conferences
Substantive session of 2007

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Anthony **Andanje** (Kenya)

III. Meetings management/improved utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

D. Improved utilization of conference facilities at Nairobi

1. At its 484th meeting, on 10 September 2007, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning the utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/62/161 and Corr.1, paras. 42 and 43). The United Nations Office at Nairobi had confirmed that all meetings of Nairobi-based bodies in 2006 had been held there in Nairobi.

E. Improved utilization of the Conference Centre at the Economic Commission for Africa

2. Also at its 484th meeting, on 10 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning the utilization of the Conference Centre at the Economic Commission for Africa (A/62/161 and Corr.1, paras. 44-48).

Introduction and overview

3. The Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management had recently visited the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and reported that the situation regarding the use of the Conference Centre had continued to improve, due in large part to increased marketing efforts by ECA. In addition, the method of calculating the utilization rate had been corrected. The Commission was cooperating closely with the Department of Safety and Security regarding security standards in approving meetings to be held there. He also reported increased

cooperation between ECA and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, which had taken the form of the loan of a staff member working in information technology from Addis Ababa to Nairobi and advice from Nairobi in enhancing the conference services in Addis Ababa.

Discussion

4. Satisfaction was expressed at the significant improvement in the utilization rate of the Conference Centre at ECA and the concrete results of closer collaboration between ECA and the United Nations Office at Nairobi. The efforts of ECA to improve the quality of conference services were commendable.